MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN: May I know how it was that the leather goods found satisfactory by the Anchal Superintendent and the Excise Commissioner were not found satisfactory by the Commandant?

PRESIDENT: I think I may explain that. The goods indented for by the Excise Commissoner and the Anchal Superintendent are not the same as those indented for by the Commandant. The pouches and other articles required by the Anchal Superintendent, the local manufactures are able to make satisfactorily.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN: Will the Government be pleased to state the cost of a pair of boots locally made and that of a pair which is foreign-made?

PRESIDENT: That does not arise now.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: I rise to a point of order. I want to know whether the President of the Council can answer interpellations.

PRESIDENT: The President can speak at any time.

Antakara Azhi.

213. MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the annual cost of closing and opening the Antakara Azhi.

(*b*) whether this work cannot be given to private contractors, at a cheaper rate; and

(*c*) whether this work was ever given to private contractors, and if so, what the amount for which the work was given was, and whether the work was done properly?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) The annual cost of the work fluctuates according to the nature of the current and tides in the sea at the time of closing and opening the bar. The annual cost may, however, be roughly fixed at Rs. 3,766, which is the average for the years from 1090 to 1097, except in 1096 when the expenditure was higher, as several attempts had to be made for closing the bar.

(*b*) The work can be given to reliable contractors provided they come forward to take it up at a moderate cost.

(*c*) The work was given on contract to Mr. Avira Tarakan of Parayil in Shertallai during 1096 for Rs. 3,750, but on actual execution he had to be paid an *extra* sum of Rs. 1,495. The work done by the contractor is reported to have been unsatisfactory on the whole.

Yield of Sweet Toddy.

214. MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the quantity of sweet toddy approximately yielded per year by 957 cocoanut, 165 palmyra and 128 sago palm trees (*vide* Administration Report for 1096)?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar.]

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state the quantity of *pani* or jaggery that may be normally manufactured from that yield?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) 1,60,782½ gallons, on the basis that a cocoanut or a palmyra tree yields on an average ¼ gallon of sweet toddy per day and a sago palm five times that quantity.

(*b*) Government have no information.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to obtain the information from the Director of Industries and will they encourage the manufacture of sweet toddy?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: The Government will call for the necessary information.

Salary of Graduate teachers in the Education Department.

215. MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to say whether graduates in the Education Department were, on passing the M. A. examination, being given a salary of Rs. 100?

(*b*) Has this rule been abolished, and, if so, for what reasons?

(*c*) Is it a fact that some persons who have passed the B. A. & L. T., B. A. (Hons)., and M. A. examinations were appointed on salaries higher than those drawn by teachers who have passed the M. A. examination and who are already in service? If so, what are the reasons for giving the new recruits the higher salary and what is the number of such recruits?

(*d*) Is it a fact that the qualification for the post of Headmasters of English High Schools is M. A. & L. T.?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The practice was stopped as the number of M. A's in the Education Department increased.

(*c*) Yes, in some cases for special reasons. Government do not propose to collect statistics on the subject.

(*d*) The attention of the member is invited to the Public Service Notification.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to say the reasons for the distinction made in the case of the new-comers?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: There are any number of new-comers and Government do not propose to explain the reason in each case.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: Is the distinction based on any principle or policy?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: There are M. A.'s and M. A.'s, and there are subjects and subjects. The fixing of the initial salary of new recruits is based not on one but on many considerations.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly